

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 008743

Z 081215Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3399

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 4851

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR BRUCE

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, TU, OVIP (LUNS, JOSEPH M.A.H.)

SUBJECT: LUNS VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS US AID TO TURKEY

SUMMARY: AT URGENT REQUEST OF TURKISH GOVERNMENT, SYG LUNS PLANS TO VISIT US SEPTEMBER 9 TO 11 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TO URGE LIFTING OF EMBARGO ON US AID TO TURKEY. END SUMMARY.

1. LUNS CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE SEPTEMBER 8 TO JOIN HIM AND TURKISH AMBASSADOR ERALP FOR A DISCUSSION OF LUNS' INTENTION TO MAKE AN URGENT TRIP TO THE US AT THE SPECIFIC REQUEST OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS ON THE PRESSING NEED TO LIFT EH US EMBARGO ON AID TO TURKEY. LUNS EXPLAINED ERALP HAD INFORMED HIM THAT, IF THE EMBARGO WERE NOT LIFTED, NOT ONLY WOULD US BASES BE SHUT, BUT ARRANGEMENTS WITH NATO WOULD BE REASSESSED AND NATO BASES WOULD BE PUT UNDER RESTRICTIONS SIMILAR TO THOSE NOW APPLIED TO US BASES. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, LUNS SAID, NATO, AS AN INSTITUTION MUST BE SEEN MAKING ASTRONG EFFORT TO SUPPORT LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO. LUNS RECALLED THE CONSENSUS, EXCEPT FOR GREECE, THAT HAD EMERGED IN RECENT PRIVATE MEETINGS ABOUT THE URGENT NEED TO TAKE STEPS TO ALLEVIATE PRESSURES ON TURKEY FLOWING FROM THE EMBARGO. MOREOVER, ERALP REPORTED, THEITALIAN AMBASSADOR AT ANKARA HAD REPORTED
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TO GOT THAT THE ITALIANS, AS PRESIDENT OF THE NINE, HAD MADE A DEMARCHE TO THE US UNDERLINING THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF THE EMBARGO AND CALLING FOR EVERY EFFORT TO END IT. IF THE NINE ARE CONCERNED, ERALP SAID, NATO, AS A SECURITY ORGANIZATION, COULD BE NO LESS

CONCERNED.

2. LUNS SAID THAT HE HAD TAKEN THE DECISION IN HIS CAPACITY AS SECRETARY GENERAL TO TRAVEL TO THE US, HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO DO SO AND WOULD ANNOUNCE HIS DECISION AT PRIVATE PERMREP MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TH THE AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 8. IN THAT MEETING, HE PLANNED TO RECALL HIS CONCERNS ABOUT THE SITUATION ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK, REPORT ON THE EC DEMARCHE TO THE US AND STRESS THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN DISGRUNTLED AND AGNRY IF HE HAD NOT AGREED TO SEEK IMMEDIATE DISCUSSIONS WITH US LEADERS.

3. REGARDING APPOINTMENTS WHILE IN THE US, LUNS SAID THAT HE HOPED TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY AND WITH THE PRESIDENT, IF POSSIBLE. HE WOULD LIKE TO STOP IN NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 10 IF THE SECRETARY WERE WILLING TO SEE HIM THERE. HE ALSO WISHES TO MEET WITH THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE, PERHAPS IN A BREAKFAST MEETING. ADDITIONALLY, HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO HOLD BREAKFAST OR OTHER MEETINGS WITH SENATE LEADERS. REGARDING PUBLICITY, HE WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE, IF THAT COULD BE ARRANGED.

4. I TOLD LUNS THAT I WAS NOT INFORMED IN DETAIL OF CURRENT ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS WITH THE CONGRESS TO PROMOTE A VOTE ON THE EMBARGO BUT I BELIEVED THAT MEETINGS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE ISSUE OF THE EMBARGO WOULD NOT BEGIN UNTIL SEPTEMBER 17, PERHAPS IN HOPE OF FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS THIS WEEK WITH REGARD TO THE

SITUATION IN CYPRUS.

5. ERALP SAID THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS CALLED FOR HIM TO URGE LUNS TO TRAVEL TO THE US IMMEDIATELY AND LUNS SAID IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO REFUSE AND DEPLORABLE IF ERALP HAD TO REPORT THAT THE US DID NOT WISH HIM TO GO. THEREFORE, LUNS HOPED THAT US AUTHORITIES WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF TURKISH VIEWS IN ARRANGING HIS SCHEDULE. IF THE GREEK AMBASSADOR OBJECTS TO HIS TRIP, LUNS PLANS TO TELL THE GREEK THAT HE PLANS TO BE ENTIRELY EVENHANDED
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IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH US OFFICIALS.

6. I AM PROVIDING BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM LUNS' SPECIFIC TRAVEL PLANS, AND HIS REQUEST FOR US TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE.

7. COMMENT: IN THE CIRCUMSTANCE, I SEE NO WAY IN WHICH WE CAN OBJECT TO LUNS' PROPOSED VISIT. HIS ACUTE FRUSTRATION AT HIS PERSONAL INABILITY TO ASSIST IN A RESOLUTION OF THE GREEK-TURKISH CONFRONTATION NO BOUBT HAS IMPLEED HIM TO ACCEPT WITH ALACRITY THE TURKISH PROPOSAL THAT HE LEND HIS PERSONAL WEIGHT TO EFFORTS WITH CONGRESS TO OVERCOME THE EMBARGO. MOREOVER, WHILE I RECOGNIZE THAT HIS TRIP MAY PROVE INCONVENIENT AND INEFFECTIVE

IN THE CONTECT OF PRESENT ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS WITH THE CONGRESS, WE WOULD RISK BOTH OFFENDING LUNS AND DEEPLY ANGERING TURKEY IF WE DO NOT MAKE AN EFFORT TO ACCOMMODATE LUNS' DESIRE TO MEET WITH SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS. SINCE I UNDERSTAND THE SECRETARY WILL BE IN NEW YORK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 9, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR LUNS TO PROCEED DIRECTLY TO THE WALDORF FOR A MEETING WITH HIM SEPTEMBER 10. IN THE COURSE OF THAT DISCUSSION, THE SECRETARY COULD PROVIDE LUNS WITH GUIDANCE CONCERNING LATER ASPECTS OF THE SYS'S VISIT TO THE US AND PARTI ULARLY POSITIONS HE SHOULD TAKE OR AVOID IN CONVERSATIONS WITH CONGRESSIONAL LDERS AND IN ANY ENCOUNTERS WITH THE PRESS.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM USMISSION NATO

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EXDIS

8. WHEN ASKED MY PERSONAL OPINION ABOUT THE MERITS OF A DECISION THAT WAS ALREADY A FAIT ACCOMPLI, I EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL HE ARRANGE IN ADVANCE A DIGNIFIED SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTO, AND THAT BECAUSE OF HIS PRECIPITATE ACTION IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO SCHEDULE THE INTERVIEWS HE DESIRED. IF THE SECRETARY COULD NOT MEET HIM AT THE BEGINNING OF HIS TOUR I FELT HE MIGHT RECEIVE AN UNENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION. I REALIZED, HOWEVER, THE OVERWHELMING PRESSURE HE WAS UNDER FROM THE OFFICIAL DEMAND BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, AND MORE GENERALLY CRITICISM DIRECTED AGAINST HIMSELF AND NATO ESPECIALLY SINCE THE DEMARCHE OF THE NINE FOR WHAT HAS ALREADY (IN MY OPINION WRONGLY) BEEN TERMED THE APATHETIC ATTITUDE OF NATO TOWARD DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TURKISH-GREEK DISPUTE, AS WELL AS ITS ALLEGED LAISSEZ-FAIRE POLICY REGARDING PORTUGAL.

9. ONLY TWO DAYS AGO I HAD A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH LUNS ABOUT THE ABOVE, IN WHICH IT WAS EVIDENT THAT HE HAS LONG SMARTED UNDER SLIGHTS ON HIS SUPPOSED INACTIVITY IN THESE MATTERS. NOW THE PRESSURE I HAVE REFERRED TO HAVE INDUCED HIM TO WANT TO EXPRESS POBLICLY CONCERNS THAT HAVE AGITATED HIM IN PRIVATE.

10. AS A MATTER OF FACT PRIVATE MEETINGS OVER TURKISH, GREE,
PORTUGUESE AFFAIRS HAVE BEEN SO FREQUENT FOR SOME WEEKS THAT
THERE IS LITTLE LEFT TO DISCUSS.

11. SINCE A VISIT BY LUNS IS UNAVOIDABLE, I SUGGEST THAT EVERYTHING
BE DONE BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO ASSURE HIM A COURTEOUS RECEPTION
OF THE PRESENTATION HE MUST MAKE UNDER EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES.

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OF ONE THING WE CAN BE CERTAIN -- THE CONTINUANCE OF HIS
UNDEVIATING SUPPORT OF THE MOST IMPORTANT US FOREIGN POLICIES.
END COMMENT.
BRUCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO04851
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197509102/abbrzluq.tel
Line Count: 180
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LUNS VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS US AID TO TURKEY
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, TU, OVIP (LUNS, JOSEPH M.A.H.)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006